



SoLiS

Newsletter of the

Southeast Library System

June 2010 Issue

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SOWINGS

By Brenda Ealey, SELS Administrator

The 2010 Heartland School Library Conference took place June 14th & 15th on the UNO Campus with 200 school librarians in attendance from Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and South Dakota. What a great opportunity to mingle and brainstorm with colleagues and hear some fabulous presenters – Cassandra Barnett, the current president of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and Pam Berger, author of *Choosing Web 2.0 Tools for Learning and Teaching in a Digital World*. The conference was a brainchild of Dr. Becky Pasco's, UNO Library Science programs, who partnered with University of Nebraska at Kearney Library Media program and the Nebraska Educational Media Association (NEMA). My instinct is you'll see a regional conference like this one for school librarians happen again – just judging from the scuttlebutt before, during and after. So, kudos to all of those involved.

Cassandra Barnett tackled the topic of AASL's standards for 21st Century Learners. Cassandra encouraged participants to check out the AASL website resources and lesson plans for integrating the standards – www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/index.cfm. On the website you'll find a link to the AASLblog for discussion lists, networking tools.; as well as a link to the Learning4Life national implementation plan for the standards; and Essential Links where you can find and share resources – <http://aasl.ala.org/essentiallinks>. She's also got me adding one more title to my summer reading list: *Readicide: How Schools Are Killing Reading and What You Can Do about It*

by Kelly Gallagher. Cassandra suggested that every school librarian and English teacher should read this book – describing it as a "...bible for reading literacy." That makes me think that all librarians, teachers and parents ought to also have this on their reading list.

Pam Berger challenged us to use Web 2.0 Tools in supporting curriculum by focusing on the student, rather than the technology and stressing that today's students are collaborative, independent learners, using online and onsite resources who transition from one task to the next very quickly. That means structuring learning that's social and individual and most likely not linear. Pam used Prezi, a free online tool (<http://prezi.com/>), for her presentation demonstrating an interactive tool in lieu of a linear program such as PowerPoint. She also connected with Barbara Stripling on Skype for her to talk with us live about the Stripling Inquiry Model (Connect/Wonder/Investigate/Construct/Express/Reflect). That model moves us away from topic research and instead engages students in critical thinking and examination of diverse and conflicting information to help prompt inquiry. Pam added to my list of things for summer inquiry by sharing the Top 25 Websites for Teaching and Learning, which you can find at: www.ala.org/aasl/bestlist. They are free, web-based sites that are user friendly and encourage a community of learners to explore and discover. On my list to explore are: Animoto, Mindmeister & Bubbl.us, Polleverywhere. The webpage also includes a pdf to download for a book-mark with the list of websites. What a great resource for librarians and library users.

Next Board Meeting

August 26th, Clark
Enersen – 1010 Lincoln
Mall, Suite 200
10:00 AM



Calendar

Southeast Library Systems

June - August 2010

- July 6th** – Nebraska Library Leadership Institute Reunion with Jamie LaRue at St. Benedict in Schuyler.
- July 9th** - Nebraska Library Commissioners meeting from 9:30 to 12 at Nebraska Library Commission, 1200 N Street. The meeting is open to the public. For more information contact Maria Medrano-Nehls at (402)471-2045 or (800)307-2665 or at: maria.medrano-nehls@nebraska.gov.
- July 16th** – State Advisory Council Meeting, 9:30 to 1:30 – site to be determined. The meeting is open to the public. For more information contact Maria Medrano-Nehls at (402)471-2045 or (800)307-2665 or at: maria.medrano-nehls@nebraska.gov.
- July 20th** – Database Roadshow from 9:30 to 3:30 at ESU#3 (6949 South 110th Street, LaVista). NLC staff will provide you with an overview of the NebraskAccess website, with time for hands-on training and a tour of the Librarian's Toolbox, which contains promotional and training material. Register online at: www.nlc.state.ne.us/training/train.asp.
- July 23rd** – CASTL Meeting at Auburn Memorial Library – please bring library board members or trustees as well as a copy of your library budget – which will be the topic for this meeting. You are also encouraged to read one of the titles on the RUSA Reading List in the Fantasy category (www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/awards/readinglist/index.cfm). The winner in this category was *Lamentation* by Ken Scholes, but you can also choose from the Read-Alikes or Short List: *Game of Thrones* by George R.R. Martin; *Wizards First Rule* by Terry Goodkind; *Acacia. Book One, The War With the Mein* by David Anthony Durham; *Red Wolf Conspiracy* by Robert V.S. Redick; *Turn Coat* by Jim Butcher; *Warbreaker* by Brandon Sanderson; or *The Warded Man* by Peter V. Brett. Of course we'll conclude the day with a round robin and a chance to share ideas, questions and current happenings. The meeting starts at 10 a.m. and we'll aim to wrap things up by 3:30 p.m.
- July 31st** – 16th Annual Norfolk Public Library Literature Festival at Northeast Community College. It will feature three fabulous authors; 2010-2011 Golden Sower Previews by Karen Drevo & Marci Retzlaff; Book Display & Discount Sales by Norfolk Public Library Foundation of titles by Hopkinson, Henson, & Varrato; Sales of Golden Sower Items; Autograph Session/Book Signing with Deborah Hopkinson (*Abe Lincoln Crosses a Creek*), Heather Henson (*That Book Woman*) & Tony Varrato (*Fakie*). Contact Karen Drevo (402-844-2108) at Norfolk Public Library for more information or to register.

NLC staff will provide you with an overview of the NebraskaAccess website, with time for hands-on training and a tour of the Librarian's Toolbox, which contains promotional and training material.

August 26th – SELS Board and Annual Planning Meeting, 10 a.m., Clark Enersen Partners, 1010 Lincoln Mall, Suite 200 – Lincoln.



- July 23rd-Auburn Memorial Library
- Aug. 19th-Deshler Public Library
- Sept. 24th-Alice M. Farr Library, Aurora
- Nov. 4th-Syracuse Public Library
- Dec. 10th-Webermeier Memorial Library, Milford

Visit us online to share your
favorite picnic recipes.
www.selsfriends.org.





News and Notes

Excalibur Award

The Public Library and Trustee Section of the Nebraska Library Association is accepting nominations for the Excalibur Award for Outstanding Public Librarian.

We all know and work alongside public librarians who significantly contribute, both locally and statewide, to public libraries and the library profession. Please help highlight these efforts by nominating a current member of the Public Library and Trustee Section for this recognition. Recipient criteria for the Excalibur Award include:

- Development of outstanding service in field/s of expertise, e.g. reference, children's, technical, administrative.
- Involvement in statewide library service.

- Record of library leadership in local community, regional area or in the Nebraska Library Association.
- Encouragement of community/institutional support for the library.

The deadline for applications is Monday, August 2, 2010. The winner of the Excalibur Award will be recognized at the NLA/NEMA 2010 Conference in Grand Island in October. For the application form and additional details, go to <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/PLTS/excalibur.html>

Please contact me with any questions you may have.
Thanks!

Lisa Olivigni
Director, Crete
Public Library

SELS Election Results

SELS would like to welcome and congratulate our newly elected board members:

- Barbara Hegr, Director of Morton-James Public Library in Nebraska City. Barbara is our current President and has been re-elected for a second term.
- Carolyn Bennett was elected for her first term. Carolyn is a librarian at Beatrice Public Library.
- Kent Munster returns to our board. Kent was appointed last term to fill a vacancy, and we welcome him back to serve a full term.
- Carol Oltman is a Media Specialist at Beatrice Public High School and will be serving her first term.
Congratulations to all, and welcome to the SELS team!

Reserve a Date to View the PLA Virtual Conference!

SPONSORED BY SOUTHEAST LIBRARY SYSTEM

THE 2010 PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION VIRTUAL CONFERENCE



Now Taking Reservations!

Finally! An affordable alternative to attending a Public Library Association National Conference. Southeast Library System is now accepting private reservations for the 13th National PLA Virtual Conference, pre-recorded for your convenience.

Contact Southeast Library System today to find out more about how you can host your own event for your staff. E-mail Brenda Ealey, SELS Administrator, at: bsealey@windstream.net. Or call her at: 402-467-6188, or toll free at: 800-288-6063.

Make Your Reservation Today!



**\$50/individual
Group Rates
Available!**

- [Cross Over Readers Advisory](#)
- [Top Tech Trends](#)
- [Cracking the Code: Beyond Dewey](#)
- [Advance Black Belt Librarians](#)
- [Marketing as Conversation](#)
- [If You Didn't Work Here, Would You Come Here?](#)
- [Save Your After School Sanity](#)
- [Shortcuts to Greatness-10 Things Great Libraries Know](#)

Meridian, Northeast, Panhandle and Republican Valley Library Systems Present:

Bridging the Gender Gap: Enticing Boys to Books

Presenter: Carole Fiore

September 14th or 15th, 2010

9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



September 14th
Aurora Public Library
1603 "L" Street
Aurora NE

OR

\$20 per person
(includes lunch)

September 15th
Ole's Big Game Steakhouse &
Lounge
123 North Oak
Paxton NE

Carole D. Fiore holds a BS in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from Temple University and an MS in Library Science from Drexel University. Carole was a public library consultant with the State Library and Archives of Florida where she directed the award winning Florida Library Youth Program (FLYP). She also served as the Library Services and Technology Act Grant Coordinator and liaison consultant to libraries and library systems in rural, suburban, and urban areas.

Carole will teach you how to:

- Increase your knowledge and skill level in connecting boys and books.
- How to evaluate and purchase materials attractive to boys.
- Types of activities that will attract boys to libraries and reading
- Understand boy's developmental progression.

This program is sponsored in part by the Nebraska Library Commission and funded in part with state funds allocated through the Nebraska Legislature

Bridging the Gender Gap: Enticing Boys to Books Registration

Circle one: **Aurora** or **Paxton**

Name: _____

Library: _____

City: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mail \$20.00 check and registration by **September 1, 2010** to:

Republican Valley Library System
2727 W. Second Street # 233
Hastings, NE 68901-4684
800-569-4961 or 402-462-1975
E-mail: rvlstasst@inebraska.com

Jamie LaRue to Speak at the NE Library Leadership Reunion



Date: July 6th, 2010
Place: St. Benedict
 Retreat Center,
 Schuyler
Time: 10:00 a.m. to
 3:00 p.m.
Cost: \$20, includes
 lunch
CE: 4 hours
Dress: Casual

Nebraska Library Leadership Reunion Presents Jamie LaRue

What does 50 years of brain research have to do with growing market share? And what's the difference between market share and support? Come listen to a case study of how one library went from worst in the state, to best in the nation, but still had some important lessons to learn. You'll learn tips to help your library get better, and hear about the latest, cutting-edge research on what makes our brains work, and what helps libraries connect to communities.

Jamie LaRue has been the director of the Douglas County Libraries, headquartered in Castle Rock, CO, since 1990. He is the author of "The New Inquisition: Understanding and Managing Intellectual Freedom Challenges". We'll have copies of his book for sale. Jamie has also written a weekly newspaper column for over 20 years. He was the Colorado Librarian of the Year in 1998, the Castle Rock Chamber of Commerce's 2003 Business Person of the Year, and in 2007 won the Julie J. Boucher Award for Intellectual Freedom.

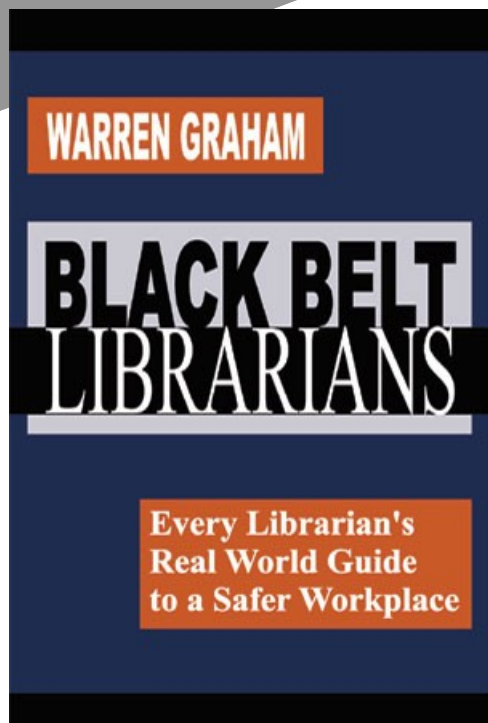
Registration Form—Register by June 28th

Name: _____
 Library: _____
 City: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____
 Year Attended Institute: _____

**Make Checks out to: NRLS
 Mail Registration to:
 Eastern Library System,
 11929 Elm Street, Suite. 18
 Omaha, NE 68144-4364**

Sponsored by: Nebraska Regional
 Library Systems and Nebraska
 Library Association

Contact Kathy Tooker at Eastern
 Library System: 402-330-7884 , or
 email: ktooker@windstream.net.



Nebraska Regional Library Systems

NLA/NEMA Pre-Conference

October 13, 2010
Midtown Holiday Inn
Grand Island
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Grand Island, NE 68803
Cost is \$20 (includes lunch)
6 Continuing Education Credits



Warren Graham will discuss:

- Handling difficult customers for public service staff and managers
- Complete security staff training
- Analysis of existing procedures and recommendations for improvement
- Customized training for specific needs
- Self-defense tactics for front line staff

Registration:

Name: _____

Library: _____

City: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Register at the NLA/NEMA Conference
Website:

[http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/
conference/2010](http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/conference/2010)

This program is made possible by the Nebraska Library Commission and funded in part with state funds allocated through the Nebraska Legislature.

NORFOLK PUBLIC LIBRARY'S 16TH ANNUAL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, JULY 31, 2010 / 9:00 A. M. - 4:00 P. M.
NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE / LIFELONG LEARNING CENTER
801 East Benjamin Avenue, Norfolk, NE

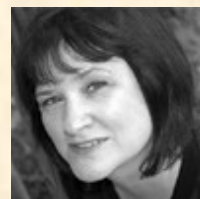
Funded by the Norfolk Library Foundation, the City of
Norfolk, & SCYP

Featuring



DEBORAH HOPKINSON

2011 Golden Sower Award nominee for *ABE*
LINCOLN CROSSES A CREEK
<http://www.deborahhopkinson.com/>



HEATHER HENSON

2011 Golden Sower Award nominee for *THAT BOOK*
WOMAN
<http://www.heatherhensonbooks.com/>



TONY VARRATO

2011 Golden Sower Award nominee for *FAKIE*

<http://www.tonyvarrato.com/>

ALSO: 2010-2011 Golden Sower Previews by Karen Drevo & Marci Retzlaff; Book Display & Discount Sales by Norfolk Public Library Foundation of titles by Hopkinson, Henson, & Varrato; Sales of Golden Sower Items; Autograph Session/Book Signing with Deborah Hopkinson, Heather Henson & Tony Varrato; Door Prizes; 5 Continuing Education Hours (for all day attendance) from the Nebraska Library Commission for School & Public Librarians; 5 Professional Growth Points (for all day attendance) for Teachers/Staff employed by Norfolk Public Schools.

TICKETS: Youth (18 & under): \$5.00/advance & \$7.50/door Adults: \$20.00/advance & \$25.00/door

!Free admission for current SCYP members!

Advance tickets are available at Norfolk Public Library OR by mail order. To order tickets by mail, **send a stamped, self-addressed envelope with full payment (make checks payable to "Norfolk Library Foundation--Literature Festival")** to:

Literature Festival
Norfolk Public Library
308 W. Prospect Avenue
Norfolk, NE 68701

For more information, contact Karen Drevo at NPL by phone (402/844-2108) or e-mail kdrevo@ci.norfolk.ne.us

A wonderful way to spend a summer day FOR LITERATURE LOVERS OF ALL AGES!

SELS Annual Report, June 2010

State of the System

Training & Consulting

A significant role for SELS falls within this area, and a review of this year's activities did not disappoint, and is a reminder of perhaps why time seems to fly. We had a minimum of 732 attending continuing education events on at minimum 38 different continuing education topics:

- **CASTL (Conversation Among Small Town Librarians)** group met 10 different times over the past year, with an attendance of over 120, and the June CASTL meeting still to be recorded later this month. CASTL is scheduled at sites throughout the SELS region, and this year the SELS Continuing Education meeting decided to hold a meeting at least once in each of the counties served by SELS during a two year period. During the 2009/2010 fiscal year we had CASTL meetings in 8 of the 15 counties. The CASTL group tackled a variety of topics at the meetings and through online discussion. One of the most significant tasks from the group this year was a review of the Nebraska Public Library Accreditation Guidelines. CASTL meetings are open to anyone – and please invite trustees, friends, public and school librarians to attend, as well.

- **Corrections Librarians' Meetings** have been held on a regular basis over the last fiscal year. At six of the seven meetings SELS has participated in, seven of the eight institutional librarians have all been present – Omaha Correctional Center; Lincoln Correctional Center; Nebraska Corrections Youth Facility; Nebraska State Penitentiary; Tecumseh State Correctional Institution; Diagnostic & Evaluation Center and Nebraska Correctional Center for Women. The eighth institution is the Work Ethic Camp at McCook – which has a very limited library, and a staff person assigned whose primary job is to teach. I was able to attend a Warden's meeting at WEC and tour the facility. The regular meetings have allowed time for addressing a number of continuing education topics. A change in staffing and individual assigned as coordinator for the corrections' librarians has contributed to significant progress – even though the change resulted in dual duties and the loss of the coordinator as a standalone position.

- **SELS/NEMA Workshop** was held at Dorchester schools this year. The training lined up for this program was excellent (Microsoft Publisher, handheld devices, book reviews) and well received by a small number of participants. However, it provided us the opportunity to meet in a recently remodeled library, and a chance to interact with school librarians from the region that have not been able to participate in other SELS events. The partnership with NEMA assists us financially in the workshop, and their name as a part of the event, one more way to entice school librarian participation.

- **Oklahoma Library Association/Mountain Plains Library Association** conference in Oklahoma City was the destination for four librarians from SELS – thanks to funding support from the SELS Friends. The SELS van made transportation to and from inexpensive.

- **Trustee Training with Jim Connor** was a joint project of the Nebraska Regional Library Systems (NRLS) with funding support from a Nebraska Library Commission Continuing Education Grant. There was good attendance at two sites (North Platte & Wahoo) and the training reiterated the need for ongoing continuing education in this area.

- **Fall & Spring Colloquiums, with Tracie Hall and Terry Pettit**, were successful joint projects of Eastern & Southeast Library Systems in 2009/2010. We started the colloquiums the spring of 2006, making the most recent one our ninth event. They are intended to fill a continuing education need for professional librarians, students, library supporters and others that focused on issues expanding and broadening discussions to nurture creative responses to a rapidly changing profession. The goal has been to recruit nationally respected speakers within the profession, and with the latest colloquium from outside the library profession. The colloquiums have required partnerships with Bellevue and Creighton Universities for additional financial support, and a Nebraska Library Commission continuing education grant for one of this year's colloquiums.

- **SELS Training Extravaganza** as the annual continuing education event designed to serve librarians from all types of libraries, as well as library trustees and library supporters was well attended with 12 different sessions to choose from and 57 folks in attendance. The use of Lincoln Public Schools District Office to host the event provides us with a facility with the necessary classroom and computer lab space at no additional cost to SELS. Additionally, the library staff at LPSDO contributes a great deal to the work and preparation required for this large C.E. event. We also depend heavily on SELS Board members for assistance in hosting and training sessions.

- **Youth Services Retreat** at Camp Carol Joy Holling is a significant opportunity for librarians working with youth of all ages. It's a joint project with Eastern Library System – and 2/3 of attendees are from that region, although SELS has a faithful representation from the region, and the retreat also pulls from other regions in the state. NLC's Coordinator for Children and YA Library Services is a regular attendee and presenter, and has advocated successfully for funding support from the youth grants for excellence.

- **Heartland School Librarians' Conference** will take place June 14th & 15th at University of Nebraska Omaha. SELS has been fortunate to be a partner on this project that has 200 librarians from across the state and outside the state registered to attend.

(Continued on page 10)

SELS Annual Report 2010 (cont.)

●**Virtual Public Library Association Conference** at Seward Memorial Library was an opportunity to try out attending a national conference in the comfort of Nebraska. The expense in making this opportunity available was a risk SELS felt confident in pursuing. It made it possible for Nebraska individuals to participate in a national conference that otherwise would not have been possible. The event included 10 sessions over two days covering the subjects of: Crossover Readers Advisory; If you Didn't Work Here, Would You Come Here?; LITA's Top Technology Trends; Marketing As Conversation; Cracking the Code Beyond Dewey; Top 10 Security Issues; Save Your After School Sanity; Shortcuts to Greatness and two author interviews. The setting at Seward Memorial Library allowed for some great conversations and discussion between sessions among the 14 individuals participating, including a tour and overview of Seward's switch from Dewey numbers to a subject heading list.

James Solheim, Terry Pettit, Gary Moore, Ellen Klages & Jean Lukesh are all authors that have been a part of events this fiscal year. James Solheim participated in this year's summer reading workshop and shared his book, *Born Yesterday*; Terry Pettit author of *Talent & the Secret Life of Teams*, autographed his book at the Spring Colloquium; Gary Moore's book, *Playing With the Enemy*, was the book selection for One Book Many Librarians at the NLA/NEMA Conference; Ellen Klages was hosted by 4 southeast Nebraska Communities as part of the One Book for Nebraska Kids and her title, *The Green Glass Sea*; and Jean Lukesh presented at the Youth Services Retreat concerning her book, *The Nebraska Adventure*.

Consortia/Cooperation/Collaboration

This is another area that's contributed to the ability of SELS to provide services in a manner that responds to the needs of our constituents – in spite of shrinking budget funds. It's also testament to the value placed on SELS as an organization to partner with on projects that benefit from our involvement. That lends tremendous value when you think of the almost universal problem of flat budgets or budget cuts for all types of libraries and organizations over the past year. Certainly, the contribution from SELS has not been monetary, but rather use of skills, resources and energies. At minimum we collaborated on projects and activities with 15 different organizations, including: Nebraska Regional Library Systems, Eastern Library System, Nebraska Library Commission, Nebraska Library Association, Nebraska Department of Correctional Services, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Read Aloud Nebraska, Nebraska Association of Institutional Libraries, Public Resource Library Group, ACLU Nebraska, Southeast Community College Diversity Office, Nebraska Educational Media Association, Creighton University and Bellevue University. That list does not include the often sought support of the SELS Board and their respective organizations and libraries, or the SELS Friends.

Lending is an ongoing collaborative service that continues to be utilized with available resources from the SELS Office. Most popular this past fiscal year is the Wii & Games, Dies and book discussion bags.

SELS's use of a van for the system vehicle pays out in big dividends for others, as we carpooled a minimum of 3,854 miles, with no less than 43 passengers. It also provides SELS staff and board with the opportunity to visit communities in the region, adding untold advantage through connections with librarians and trustees in their home communities, plus an additional level of insight that's not possible by e-mail or phone. The van traveled no less than 10,000 miles during fiscal year 2009/2010, which included visits to 16 different communities in southeast Nebraska.

Promotion & Advocacy

Promotion of librarians and library services, as well as advocacy for librarians, trustees, library friends and library supporters are fundamental in the services we provide and the activities we participate in for the southeast region of Nebraska. It's an area that includes a wide mix of activities, the following just a sampling: ACLU Annual Dinner with Ellery Schempp – Free Speech & Separation of Church & School; Booth at League of Nebraska Municipalities Midwinter Conference; Legislative Hearing (LB 898) – Student Expression Act; Conversation with Senator Avery at SELS December Board meeting; Banned Books display at Duffy's Tavern, Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast with Greg Mortenson's (author of Three Cups of Tea) presentation – Building Community: Books not Bombs; Meetings with students in the library associate and MLS programs; and Notable Book Speed Reviews at Seward Memorial Library.

Management of SELS Resources

This is where the true wizardry of the SELS staff and board really becomes apparent. We're in the process of reviewing and revising the personnel policy, upgraded to Windows 7 and broadband, said good bye to one administrative assistant and hello to another, in addition to the day-to-day efforts to respond to members' needs with limited staff and decreasing financial support. During October of this fiscal year the board and staff found it necessary to cut services in order to meet operating expenses. Those cuts included elimination of the print SoLiS – SELS newsletter, which is now distributed electronically. We also cut professional journal subscriptions and have temporarily cut the Administrative Assistant hours from 30 to 25. We will be heading in to this next year with a funding allocation from Nebraska Library Commission of \$110,605 – which amounts to over a \$6,000 drop from the current year, and coincidentally \$7,000 more than when the current administrator began her job in November of 1997. That averages out to a \$538.46 annual increase over a 13 year period. Funding continues to be the challenging segment of this annual review and makes the accomplishments outlined earlier in this report all the more impressive.

SELS Board Meeting

April 9, 2010

Tri-County Schools, DeWitt

10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present: Becky Baker (Seward Memorial Library); Ruth Carlock (Levitt Library, York College); Scott Childers (University of Nebraska Lincoln Libraries); Barbara Hegr (Morton-James Public Library, Nebraska City); Kim McCain (Tri-County Schools, DeWitt); Kent Munster (Clark Enersen Partners, Lincoln); Tom Schmitz (Lincoln Regional Center Library).

Also Present: Brenda Ealey (SELS Administrator); Yvonne Weers (SELS Administrative Assistant); Rod Wagner (Nebraska Library Commission).

Board Members Absent: Barbara Cornelius (Nebraska Wesleyan University, Cochran-Woods Library); Wanda Marget (Fairmont Public Library); Adam Prochaska (Harding & Shultz Law Firm, Lincoln); Robin Sugden (Freeman Public Schools, Adams); Glenda Willnerd (Lincoln Public Schools District Office).

Meeting called to order by Barbara Hegr at 10:18 a.m.

What's New Around the System

Becky Baker (Seward Memorial Library) This is our last week of programs for the spring - in case you can hear cheering from our part of the state :-). We are gearing up for summer programs, which begin June 1. Becky Reisinger from my staff was recently interviewed for a short segment on 10/11 that will air on Friday, April 16 at 8:55 a.m. about our Leading to Reading postcards, and about the importance of reading to children in general. We are currently doing a major update of our card sets and are rolling out a new webpage as well - www.leading2reading.com. The cards will be MUCH more professional looking this go around. Down the road we will be developing online video segments that will supplement each of the 61 cards that make up this set. We are preparing for National Library Week which is next week - April 11 - 17. We start off the week with Speed Reviews on Sunday from 2-3 p.m., using books from ALA's Notable Books list and from their Reading List (genre fiction). It should be a fun time, and thanks also to Brenda who will be helping us with the program by being one of the reviewers. We have a preschool party scheduled for Tuesday morning for all the children who just finished their regular preschool programs, a Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours from 5-6:30 on Thursday (Take a Dip @ the Library - great food, etched glass give-aways, vodka slushes, but no swimming suits or grass skirts!), and we end the week with the Traveling Children's Theatre that Ruth talks about below. During the week we will run the "Get Carded" promotion, we have a bookmark contest, we ask 3rd graders to write to themselves as Seniors (and we keep these letters) and we deliver the letters to the Seniors that they wrote to themselves when they were in 3rd grade, and of course granting amnesty for those who ask (up to a limit). We are recognizing our volunteers with an article in the local paper and \$15 each in Seward bucks - as a group they have donated 450 hours of time since last April. We are also announcing our *All Seward Reads Together* title, **Down River** by Edgar Award winner John Hart. He is a "recovering attorney" (sorry Adam - his words, not mine!) from North Carolina and we are working out a way for him to visit Nebraska in the fall as part of our community read program. I'm looking forward to MPLA in Oklahoma City later this month, followed by a quick trip to Texas to see the grandkids.

Ruth Carlock (Levitt Library York College) This weekend, April 9-11th, we are celebrating High School Days and will have a number of high school students spending the weekend on campus. This event will include Songfest, (a musical performance provided by our eight social clubs), Traveling Children's Theatre performing *In One Basket*, a Concert Choir performance, a movie *The Blind Side*, campus tours, and sports and concert choir tryouts. Over Spring Break, new computers were installed in our upstairs computer/teaching lab and 4 of the computers from there were added to our computer lab on the main floor of the library. We have 3 more weeks of classes and finals and our Spring semester will be over. Our library staff members are looking forward to flying to Montgomery, Alabama for our Christian College Librarians Conference in May.

Scott Childers (University of Nebraska - Lincoln Libraries) Two events in April are highlighting alumni of two different types. First, Love Library is hosting an exhibit from the UNL Emeriti Association, showing some of the work done by faculty after they retire from the University. The display runs April 2 to June 30. At the other end of the spectrum, UNL Libraries is also having two events inviting former Libraries student employees during the Husker Spiritfest/Alumni Weekend April 16 & 17. A reception will be held at CY Thompsen Friday night, and a tailgate cookout at Love Library before the Red/White game on Saturday. The UNL Libraries also recently had our Academic Program Review. We are waiting for the final report, but early feedback was very positive.

Barbara Cornelius (Nebraska Wesleyan University, Cochran-Woods Library) We are wrapping up the last month of the semester. We have added a federated search product to help our students search the databases more efficiently. The library faculty are participating in a re-evaluation of the General Education requirements, and making recommendations about accommodating possible changes to the curriculum.

Barbara Hegr (Morton-James Public Library - Nebraska City) One of the most exciting events we have hosted is happening right now. The Travel Club is in full swing. Our traveler is in Budapest today having started in Paris on March 21. If you would like to follow along, go to our website, www.morton-jamespubliclibrary.com and enter our Facebook page. Grant reports to us almost daily with photos and commentary. He will be traveling to several other countries. Last week, our Children's Library started Wee Folk Lapsit a program designed for children 18 months to 3 years old. This a new age group for us. The children are a little bit tentative right now. Next up will be summer programs. We are adding an adult summer program this year. Brown bag programs on Mondays for four weeks and a book club for the summer. Weekly drawings will be include for both. Two grants were written to our local foundations last month so we are waiting to hear if we are receiving the money for two projects. One is for the Teen section, new

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Barbara Hegr (Morton-James Public Library - Nebraska City)

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Wanda Marget (Fairmont Public Library)

Kim McCain (Tri-County Schools - DeWitt)

Senior research papers are due today. We used resources from our media center as well as visited Doane college. We are excited about National Library Week and have several activities planned for the event. We will finish converting the nonfiction collection over to keywords by the end of the year and then need to rearrange the shelves. We can't wait! Spring has sprung and everyone is counting the days!

Kent Munster (Clark Enersen Partners - Lincoln)

We're now working with library director Sherry Black and the library board in Auburn to complete plans for an addition to their existing facility. We started this process about 4 years ago; they have been working on fundraising since then. The USDA grant opportunity has helped them to reach their goal. The addition will house a new children's area and a new public meeting room. They hope to be able to begin construction in a few months.

As one component of a new project in Kansas City--the UMKC Health Sciences Education Building--we're working on a program for the new Health Sciences Library, which will replace three separate existing libraries--medicine, pharmacy, and dental on the Hospital Hill Campus. While touring the Miller Nichols Library on the UMKC Volker Campus we were able to glimpse the installation of the University's new library "robot". Sixty-foot-high super-density shelving will store over 2,000,000 volumes retrievable with robotic technology. Existing library collection spaces will largely be converted to study and collaborative learning environments. About 200,000 volumes will remain in public browsing shelving--the wave of the future.

Adam Prochaska (Harding & Shultz Legal Firm - Lincoln)

Tom Schmitz (Lincoln Regional Center Library)

Spring has come to LRC and the patients are now able to get outside and visiting the Resource Center more. Attendance and patient requests are up 31%. A local church group donated 378 books last month through our recreation department and most were gently used fiction. I was given the task of screening the materials and directing them to the different programs. I kept the hardbound for the Resource Center. Everyone is pleased!

Robin Sugden (Freeman Public Schools - Adams)

Glenda Willnerd (Lincoln Public Schools District Office)

- The big news at LPS is the selection of our new superintendent - Dr. Steve Joel from Grand Island. We have 40 days left till the end of school. Where has the year gone?
 - LPS Media Services media technology integration specialist - Nancy Larimer is conducting technology workshops for our library media specialists. She has completed training for our secondary lms and on April 14th & 21st will train elementary lms.
 - I will be presenting with three colleagues in Federal Programs at the National Family Literacy Conference on Monday in San Antonio, TX. The program will tell about the collaboration which took place among LPS, Lincoln Cultural Centers and Southeast Community College to provide family literacy programs in the cultural centers.
 - We will be recognizing three lms that will be retiring at the end of the school year. They are Doug and Barb Hellerich and Donna Lundberg. Tara Glunz-Fries will be moving to Virginia.
- We look forward to hosting the SELS Extravaganza on Friday, May 21st.

Brenda talked about two books that were interesting from the ALA Notable list: *A Mercy* by Toni Morrison and *Born to Run* by Christopher McDougall.

Rod Wagner attended the Lincoln City Libraries Foundation Wine & Wii Event. This was very successful with items for auction and games set up to play.

Approval of Minutes

No corrections. The final vote was tabled until we had a quorum. Kent Munster arrived. Kim moved to approve the minutes. Becky seconded. Motion passed.
Becky moved and Scott seconded to approve the transaction report. Motion passed.

Financial Report

We are at 75% of our year so any line that shows over 75% in percent of budget spent is high. Miscellaneous expense went down because some of the items put there needed to be in other line items. For example – an expense for food at a board meeting. The Educational and Professional line is weird because of the expense happening in 2009 and the reimbursement being paid in 2010. We switched to a Windstream bundle that improves internet speed and means our long distance is now through Windstream rather than AT&T. We still have 2 quarters of income that will come in from Corrections. Becky suggested we add a column for what is still to come out of the budget so that we know what will be coming out before the end of the year, and also add a month to date column. Barbara has looked at the projected budget for next year. From looking at the one from last year, it looks like we will end in the black. There may be a bit left over.

FY 2010-2011 Budget Projections Discussion

The expected cut will take us down to 110 or 112 thousand. That is between 7 and 10 thousand dollars cut. We need to find out if the electronic *SoLiS* is working well in getting information to members since stopping the printed newsletter. A print newsletter is not feasible with current budget. A phone survey was suggested as a way of polling members for their input regarding the electronic format. It was suggested each SELS board member take a county to do the survey and only cover one topic at a call. Some of SELS activities have had less attendance, and one possible reason might be the switch from a printed registration form to electronic. Ruth asked if we had a list of the telephone numbers for the libraries in each county. Brenda said they have been using the Commission Directory. This online directory is more up-to-date. It is going to be very difficult for us to take another cut. We have hit personnel, newsletter, professional journals, and kept Brenda's salary flat. Scott says that if we have cut every place we can, we need to look at other ways of getting income and increasing the registration fee for Workshops is one way we could do that. At this point SELS just tries to break even on the Workshop line. Becky said that having more workshops means there will be less people attending each one, because libraries only have a certain amount of money that can be spent for training.

Rod commented that in looking over our budget it is evident we have already cut what we can without drastically changing system services. Becky said one option is to charge membership fees. Rod said those are really unfortunate things to have to consider. There will be Agency Review Plans to try to streamline the budget. Rod believes we need to retain the structure we have, but in order to do that systems have to be supported financially. Becky asked what we do about setting next year's budget. Rod said by a month from now they should be able to give us a figure to work with. Nearly everything in the aid program needs to be cut, but some things need to be cut more than others. When the legislature makes across the board cuts like they have – that is a cumulative 7% and a 9% cut in state aids funds. The Library Commission is probably going to have to have furloughs for staff. Union employees are to get a 2% increase and there is no money in the NLC budget to fund that. Brenda asked if the database use has been evaluated. Rod says that is one aid program that the legislature wanted to fund. Cutting the databases would not help the aid program because they are separate programs. NLC has requested a grant to help with scholarships for Library Science education. BTOP is another grant that will help with NLC agency operations if they get it. Money cannot be taken from state aid to pay NLC staff. NLC has frequently "robbed" money from the Interlibrary Loan compensation fund. There is not much left there, and it doesn't cover the cost of Interlibrary Loan. Rod asked what would be our request from him. Brenda said don't cut us. If we understood how the budget was at NLC it would help us understand how the money is allocated. And if you value systems as they are organized, to think hard before we are given another cut. Rod said it is a dilemma because of the governor's insistence to cut the budget. Somewhere we have to determine what will be cut. Becky asked if they have done a study to find out what was being used. Rod said it would need to have a broad base to do something like that. Rod doesn't expect the systems to have to do the Agency study. Brenda asked Rod if he had any creative ideas of ways to raise funds to let us know. Charging fees, etc. would simply pass the expense down to libraries that are also struggling with their budget.

NLC submitted an application for a portion of the economic stimulus money. The Gates Foundation provided cash funds making it possible to write the grant. Nebraska was one of 14 states to get assistance from the Gates Foundation. 170 of the libraries in Nebraska were eligible. The Foundation looks at per capita income of the community to determine eligibility. Of the 170 libraries eligible in Nebraska, there were 140 libraries that followed through and participated in the application. If they get the funding, these libraries will receive computers, etc. All are to be used for public access in the library. This will also upgrade the broadband access. A number of agencies were approached for continuing education programs, employment services, training, outreach for fundraising and advocacy, UNL extension service, etc. They hope to hear by September. NLC was the only state agency that applied for the grant. There are some libraries in the Southeast region that will receive this.

The Board discussed the information we had received from Rod Wagner. We were glad he came and shared with us. He indicated he would be willing to come again.

Administrator's Report

Below is a sampling from Brenda's report:

Service Role 1: Training & Consulting

CASTL meeting at the Tecumseh Public Library. Topic was the Annual Library Report. They viewed the archived version of the NCompass Live session on Presenting Data in Meaningful & Interesting Ways presented by John Felton. There is a live person talking, but you don't get to see them. 10 attended.

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Service Role 1 (cont.):

- Met with the Corrections' Librarians at Baright Public Library in Ralston. The topic was standardization of legal forms and review of the use of Nebraska & Creighton Law Reviews and the requirements for access with accreditation.
- Summer Reading Workshop. Program included the author James Solheim, book reviews for 2010 Summer Theme (Make a Splash) with Sally Snyder (NLC), craft and project ideas, and time to use dies and die cut machines. Moved it to a Monday which may be why they had less attend. Some didn't like to park downtown.
- Went with Sam Shaw to the Nebraska Correctional Center for Women in York to assist Kay Kronberg in weeding their collection. Got rid of a lot of it. Sam was able to get some funds to help with their nonfiction section. Kay is still just scheduled for 1 hour a day for the library.
- Brenda and Becky Baker attended the Branding Workshop at Plattsmouth Public Library. Twelve attended, including 7 from SELS region.
- CASTL meeting at Dvoracek Memorial Library in Wilber. They viewed the DVD of the League of Nebraska Municipalities program on the future of public libraries with William Crossman and Rivkah Sass and linked with IMLS wiki conversation on the future of libraries and museums. 18 attended. Two canceled because of the weather.
- March 25th & 26th – **Virtual PLA in Seward**. Fourteen attended the live program, and we have 3 individuals who will or have viewed the archived program. We also have one library that will view the archived programs as a group. There were 12 programs over the two days including: If You Didn't Work Here Would You Come Here; Cross-Over Readers Advisory; LITA's Top Technology Trends; Author Mary Roach; Marketing As Conversation; Save Your After School Sanity; Beyond Dewey – Words vs. Numbers; Perspectives on Floating Collections; Top 10 Security Issues; Author interview with Debra Gwarty; Book Reviews – the Top 5 and 10 Things that Great Libraries Know. This was live but you didn't see the people. These sessions will be available for a year. It is \$50 for one person to view, \$250 for a library, and \$300 outside of the system. We need to make up the \$1500 it cost to have it available.
- March 30th – Meeting with **Corrections Librarians at their Central Office in Lincoln**. Continuing Education topic on building a core reference and nonfiction collection, part 1. There were some administrators in the room and they were needing a place for donated books. They were shown a walk-in closet that can be used.
- April 6th – Assisted Myra Kluck (will be new library director) and Marie Huber (retiring library director) in **weeding Bruning** library collection in preparation for their move to the newly renovated space.
- Distributed the January/February, March and April newsletters (**SoLiS**) via the SELS e-mail mailing list. Yvonne and Brenda worked on changes to the format that include links and less pages to accommodate the electronic version. They are also going back to a monthly newsletter.
- Planning for **Nebraska Library Leadership Institute Reunion** with Jamie LaRue on July 6th. Nebraska Regional Library Systems will partner with Nebraska Library Association on this program at St. Benedicts in Schuyler.

Service Role 2: Consortia Building & Cooperative Approaches to Providing Library Services

- February 8th – **NLC/Systems Quarterly Meeting** at NLC. Discussion included: Library Board Legislation follow-up with Nebraska League of Municipalities; One Book for Nebraska Teens – *Unwind* by Neal Shusterman; One Book One Nebraska – *The Home Place* by Wright Morris; Library Planning Process; No limits on webinar CE hours; – Gates providing matching funds; and Accreditation Guideline review.

Service Role 3: Promotion

- February 9th – Nebraska Library Association Legislative Day. Governor Heineman addressed the group during the briefing, as well as, Scott Berryman, an Omaha attorney and board member for Eastern Library System. Scott talked about ways of building relationships with elected officials.
- February 18th – ACLU Nebraska Events Committee meeting at Mahoney. Topics of discussion included: First Amendment video contest for youth; ACLU Nebraska youth scholarships; and annual dinner planning – speaker, **Ellery Schempp**.
- February 22nd and 23rd – Nebraska Regional Library Systems purchased a **booth at the League** of Nebraska Municipalities Conference in Lincoln. Also attended the session with Rivkah Sass (former OPL Director, and current Sacramento Public Library Director) and William Crossman (author of VIVO: The Coming Age of Talking Computers) on the future of the information age and the role of public libraries.
- March 5th – **Met with the SELS Friends** at James Arthur Vineyards. Included in the discussion was a Wish List from SELS (jumpdrive/external hard drive; MPLA for Brenda; netbooks; website host/software). I've since visited with Becky Baker about adding library journals to the wish list – and the priorities for wish list might change, particularly if we have additional budget cuts in the next fiscal year. Also on the agenda: Aged to Perfection and garden basket for auction on April 29th, scholarship guidelines, cookbook, and upcoming book fairs, movie events and Iron Librarian. Also, idea on Libraries OPEN golf event as a fundraiser during NLA/NEMA conference – maybe for Legacy Fund.
- Responded to 3 students in **MLS program** for media specialist at **UNK** regarding SELS services, especially for school librarians.

Service Role 4: Management of SELS Resources

- March 11th – **Changed Windstream service** to upgrade broadband to a speed of 3mb/768k – and unlimited long distance. This means long distance is no longer through AT&T. That switch based on bills over the last year we're hoping will save possibly \$40/month – that's an estimate. The rate is a 3 year agreement – so, we'll re-evaluate March 11th, 2013. We are also planning to switch the 800# from Verizon to Windstream as of July 1, 2010 which we're hoping might save another \$30 a month – again, that's an estimate.

Board Minutes *continued from page 14*

Upcoming events/meetings:

April 17th – **SELS/NEMA Workshop** at Dorchester

April 18 – 21 - Becky, Barbara, Carolyn, and Brenda will be attending **MPLA**.

April 26th – **Trustee Training** in Wahoo. At this time no one from Southeast region is registered.

April 29th – **SELS Friends Aged to Perfection** at James Arthur Vineyards

April 30th – **SELS Board Nominations** due. Carol declined to serve. Have 4 openings. Barbara H. is thinking about running again. Kim probably will not run again. Kent was appointed and can now run officially. Tom is at the end of his second term and will probably be going off. He thought he had another year, so they will check on it. Adam is gone today but he has done a lot of work on the Personnel Policy. Barbara C. submitted a report for Google Docs. Tom suggested that if he goes off, Sam would be good.

Maggie Harding – they are having a ceremony for Gene Harding, her husband who passed away on May 7. There will be a lot of singing and pie.

May 13th – **Spring Colloquium** with Terry Pettit. He does leadership training. Bellevue and Creighton were approached about helping with the cost.

May 21st – **SELS Training Extravaganza** at LPSDO. Rod complimented them on the program.

June 24th – 29th – **ALA and National Library Legislative Day** in Washington, DC. Brenda may go at her own expense. It is \$215 for registration. She will stay with her sister and take the Metro for transportation. The main cost will be her flight. It is often less expensive to fly out of Kansas City.

SELS Friends Report

Becky passed out the flyer for Aged to Perfection 2010 and asked for items for the auction. A friends member can pay at the door. One person can bring two antiques to be appraised. The Balance when they had the March meeting was \$5,233.51. Since then they have received \$100. They revised the scholarship guidelines to include academic items. The cookbook has 62 recipes and needs 300. It will not be ready for printing this year, but they plan to have it by next year. November 20 is the Harry Potter private showing. November 26 is the Barnes and Noble day. They will not do the Twilight movie because it coming out on July 4. They are still working on an Iron Librarian Day in August, probably one of the last two Saturdays.

NLC Report

No report.

SELS Board Recruitment & Annual Meeting Plans

Need to avoid the last two weeks in June for the June meeting date. We will meet at York College on Thursday, June 3rd 2010. Ruth will host. Lunch will be at Chances R restaurant. Ruth will check out the Wessels Living History farm south of York for the ½ day of recreation.

Committee Meetings

Committees did not meet.

Committee assignments for 2009/2010:

CE Committee: Becky Baker, Karen Frank, Kim McCain, Glenda Willnerd, Scott Childers, Adam Prochaska, Barbara Cornelius

Network Committee: Barbara Hegr, Ruth Carlock, Wanda Marget, Kent Munster, Tom Schmitz, Robin Sugden

Executive Committee (Bylaws & Policies): Barbara Hegr, Karen Frank, Ruth Carlock

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Quick! We Need More!

Do you have news to share from your own library? We'd love to hear it. Consider submitting your articles for the July newsletter at: selsne@gmail.com



Quick! We need more articles!

Southeast Library System

Serving libraries in the counties of:

Cass • Fillmore • Gage •
Hamilton • Jefferson • Johnson •
Lancaster • Nemaha • Otoe •
Pawnee • Richardson • Saline •
Seward • Thayer • York

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June 2010 Issue



“Outside of a dog, a book is man’s best friend. Inside of a dog it’s too dark to read.”

~ Groucho Marx

Southeast Library System is a multi-type library network with 248 members offering a wide range of service in public, school, academic, institutional and private libraries (Membership list with populations from 2000 Census are on the SELS web page: www.selsne.org.) Membership includes 12 academic institutions, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, four private colleges, three community college campuses, a state college and a technical school. Fifty-four public libraries are system members. The majority of these libraries (34) serve populations fewer than 1,000. The system counts 146 school media centers among its members, 54 that are Lincoln Public Schools, with most of those belonging to Class 3 schools (population areas between 1,000 and 100,000). Fourteen of the school media centers are parochial. The system has 28 special and institutional members, most of which are located in Lancaster County.